

# SGA emphasizes ideal Belle

by Karen R. Taylor

With each year come new ideas, programs, activities and strategies to help improve the college and form the complete Belle.

This year, the Student Government Association's main goal is to improve the communication gap between the faculty and student body.

"As a cabinet we're trying to create a working atmosphere with the administration and student body," says Evelyn Fulmore, president.

The SGA's main concern,

however, according to Fulmore, is the faith that many Belles have in themselves and the institution.

"We say we have spirit. Why can't we be Belles until the day we die? We need to key on forming the ideal Belle and having a form of pride in the place we live."

In addition to the coronation and Labor Day festivities, scheduled bingo games, and the like, many new programs will be implemented to benefit students socially, spiritually and academically.

One such activity will be the "Belle Beauty and Charm Program."

This program will run year long and will be used as a tactic to form the overall Belle. Self-confidence, etiquette class, aerobics, wardrobe seminars and a walking class are just some of the features. In the spring, the SGA plans to get each student involved in keeping Bennett clean.

"If we take pride in something we want to work on, then we can show the school

that we care," says Fulmore.

Many pressures arise in college. The SGA plans to relieve some of these pressures by placing a positive quote in the mailboxes once a week. "It's a spiritual think-piece of the week," Fulmore says. "A good saying that will encourage you to feel good today."

The cabinet is still adjusting to the demands of leadership. "Right now we're trying to feel our way through things by organizing our responsibilities and working hard on our projects," explains Fulmore.



Alumna Linda Bragg is a prize-winning novelist. (photo from Carolina Wren Press)

## Madonnas needed

by Mrs. Mary Scarlette

The traditional Living Madonnas, one of the college's Christmas gifts to the community, will be presented Dec. 15 at 7 p.m. in the Annie Merner Pfeiffer Chapel.

The Living Madonnas are reproductions of famous paintings depicting the nativity and related events. Live models recreate the subjects of these paintings while the college choir provides beautiful Christmas music.

The production, an alternate year event, is a cooperative effort of faculty, staff and students representing the visual arts, speech, clothing, music, buildings and grounds. It is done in total darkness.

The impact of this activity sets the tone for the Christmas season, and the presentation is well attended by alumnae and persons from the city.

Anyone interested in auditioning for roles in the line tableaux is invited to attend the tryouts to be held on Oct. 16 at 7 p.m. in the chapel.

For further information, contact Dr. Alma Adams, chairperson of the Living Madonnas committee.

## Hats-as-art show

The mother-daughter team of Shirley Barnes Sieber and Deborah Barnes Plummer have combined their handicraft talents to create a new form of wearable art, an "art-cessory" which they call the "Cloche Encounter" collection.

The hats will be exhibited at the Z Studio-Gallery, 107 S. Dudley St., Oct. 13-31.

Shirley has futurized the headhugging cloche of the flapper era into a sculptured headgear made of crocheted ribbon, yarn wire, leather, suede or fabric. Deborah designs embellishments created from beads, sequins, feathers and semi-precious stones, color-coordinated to the hats.

"Mother and I work well together," says Deborah, "in that we respond to each other's creative initiative. Mother has often created a design to showcase my applique rather than the other way around."

The influences of other cultures such as African, European, Indian and Caribbean are detectable in many designs. "This is the result of travel and research," says Shirley.

The collectibles have been shown in New York at the Fashion Accessory Expo, Atlantic City and Atlanta. They are available for private showings upon request.

# Black play to premiere

by Alethea F. Adams

The Piedmont will host the world premiere of a play by a local black dramatist when the UNC-G Theatre produces Carolyn Cole's *Mournin'* Nov. 13-17.

Only the second student-written script to be presented at UNC-G during the last 29 years, *Mournin'* will be performed at 8:15 p.m. in Aycock Auditorium, with a 2:15 matinee on Nov. 17.

The play is a three-act tragicomedy. The fifth generation members of a black family in Newton Grove, N.C. come face to face with their past and future after Grandma Cora, the matriarch, has died. Embittered by child-

hood memories and jealousies and tempered by family love, two sisters—Henrietta and Eula Fletcher—confront their differences.

On the journey toward reconciliation, there are several surprising twists, but the members of the Fletcher family are survivors who embrace the past and future with determination. Issues of land ownership, generational differences, mixed ancestry and family unity are explored.

Cole, a graduate student in theater at UNC-G, based the drama on her childhood summers in rural Newton Grove. She started *Mournin'* in Dr. Herman Middleton's playwriting class at UNC-G where she was encouraged to

"finish the drama, for the stage awaits it," according to Cole. She is the author of a story included in *The O'Henry Festival of Short Stories*, 1985 collection.

The play is being directed by Ms. Karma Ibsen-Riley, and the cast unites actors from UNC-G, A&T and the city.

A Bennett alumna will appear in a major role. Betty Jean Jones, class of '71, will portray Henrietta.

Tickets can be bought at the box office in Aycock Auditorium. Call 379-5546 for information.

*Mournin'* is the UNC-G Theatre's entry in this year's American College Theater Festival Competition.



Behind the scenes at a major metropolitan newspaper: Stoney Jackson (left) stars as Mackey, the resourceful friend and partner to investigative reporter Nick Fox, played by Nicholas Campbell, in "The Insiders," a new ABC dramatic series. Will this duo rival the success of the dynamic pair on "Miami Vice"? Only you will decide Mackey and Nick's fate. (photo from ABC)

# Alumna's novel Goes to Europe In key exhibit

by Mary Ellen Priestley

CHAPEL HILL — A novel written by a Bennett alumna and published by a North Carolina small press has been selected as one of the 110 titles from 45 U.S. independent presses to be exhibited at the international book fairs in Madrid, Spain, and Frankfurt, Germany in October.

Linda Brown Bragg, class of '61, a lecturer in Afro-American literature and creative writing at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, is the author of the novel, *Rainbow Roun Mah Shoulder*, published by the Carolina Wren Press.

This novel won the Carolina Wren/N. C. Cultural Arts Coalition \$500 prize as best book-length manuscript by a minority writer in North Carolina and was published in 1984. Bragg's first novel, the story is based on the life of a black woman who becomes a spiritual healer through her developing psychic powers. The character is strong, but not a stereotyped figure. Bragg has said that she was trying to portray a three-dimensional character, one with strengths but also with a need for friendship and love, one with a life mission but one who suffers from weakness and pain.

The 1985 pilot exhibition in New American Writing at the international fairs is sponsored by the Literature Program of the National Endowment for the Arts.

Frank Conroy, who directs the NEA Literature Program, says, "Small presses have long been the seedbed of fine American writing. They are becoming the most important source of high quality contemporary writing both by established and by younger authors." The exhibition space at both fairs is being provided by the U. S. Information Agency Book Division.

Bragg says that she is now working on a second novel which is "about ordinary people who proceed in life with a kind of willfulness that results in the suffering of other people. I am exploring and learning to understand that phenomenon."

She will be on leave from her teaching duties for the spring semester to undertake "an interesting project, writing the memoirs of a Raleigh man whose name must remain anonymous now."

Bragg is very pleased with her publisher. "The small press is the savior of most serious writers today. We would all be in trouble if it were not for these presses," she says.

Teaching at UNC-Greensboro since 1972, Linda Bragg brought out her first book of poetry, *A Love Song to Black Men*, in 1974. She lives in Greensboro with her two children and her husband, Van Hinnant, a visual artist and practicing craftsman who works in the restoration of houses.